

STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
Investigation of Business Options, Inc.

Docket No. 2004-32  
  
March 5, 2004  
  
MOTION

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**MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

The Commission's Prosecutorial Staff (Staff) respectfully requests an extension of time to respond to Business Options, Inc.'s (BOI) Request for Discovery.

On February 27, 2004, BOI filed a Request for Discovery that included Interrogatories, Requests for Production of Documents, and Notice of Depositions. Originally, the discovery requests were due on February 20<sup>th</sup> but BOI requested, and was granted, an extension until February 27<sup>th</sup>. (Staff did not object to the request.) Pursuant to the Hearing Examiner's February 3, 2004 Procedural Order, responses and objections to BOI's Request for Discovery are due March 5<sup>th</sup>. Staff now requests that the deadline for both responses and objections be extended until March 26, 2004.

Staff requests this extension due to counsel's commitments in other proceedings before the Commission and the Law Court. Specifically, counsel has several days of hearings scheduled over the next two weeks as well as a brief due at the Law Court on March 23, 2004. In addition, Mary James, the Staff person who is the principal custodian of all of the documents in this case, is leaving this week for a previously-scheduled vacation outside the state.

Staff advised counsel for BOI this morning that Staff would be seeking this extension. BOI did not consent to, nor object to, Staff's request. Staff agrees that all dates in the original schedule should be moved out four weeks -- one week due to BOI's request for extension and three weeks due to Staff's request for extension.

In order to assist in moving this matter forward, Staff will make available, subject to all the objections that will be set forth in its formal response, the 195 consumer complaint files requested by BOI. Staff expects to object to the scope of BOI's discovery requests and to argue that only those cases relied upon in the penalty portion of the Prosecutor's Report are subject to discovery in this matter. However, to the extent that BOI wishes to review all 195 files now, we will make them immediately available for inspection or copying at a mutually agreeable time and place.

Respectfully submitted,

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Trina M. Bragdon  
On behalf of the  
Prosecutorial Staff